

Message Text

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PAGE 01 COTONO 01048 231351Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 CAB-02 COME-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPG-02
FAA-00 /067 W

-----058123 231930Z /43

R 231300Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9798
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMCONSUL DOUALA
AMCONSUL IBADAN
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY LOME
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PGOV, EAIR, DM, GB
SUBJ: GABON CUTS AIR SERVICE WITH BENIN

SUMMARY: GABONESE GOVERNMENT HAS NOTIFIED BENIN OF ITS DECISION
TO REFUSE LANDING RIGHTS TO ALL PASSENGER, FREIGHT, AND MAIL
FLIGHTS TO OR FROM BENINESE TERRITORY AS OF 2259Z JUNE 20
UNLESS RECIPROCAL AIR RIGHTS NEGOTIATED WITH AIR GABON. END
SUMMARY.

1. GABONESE GOVERNMENT HAS NOTIFIED GOVERNMENT OF PEOPLE'S
REPUBLIC OF BENIN (GPRB) THAT IT HAS CANCELLED LANDING RIGHTS
FOR ALL PLANES STOPPING IN BENIN. FOLLOWING IS TRANSLATED
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TEXT OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED BY BENINESE DIRECTOR OF CIVIL AVIATION
JUNE 20:

2. "FOLLOWING YOUR INDIFFERENCE TO OUR REQUESTS FOR NEGOTIATION
OF AIR RIGHTS WITH YOUR COUNTRY WE HAVE HONOR TO MAKE
KNOWN TO YOU OUR DECISION TO REFUSE UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE LANDING
RIGHTS ALL PASSENGER, FREIGHT/MAIL FLIGHTS, DIRECT OR INDIRECT,

FROM OR TO BENINESE TERRITORY. THIS PROVISION IS APPLICABLE IN ALL GABONESE AIRPORTS TODAY AS OF 2259 UNIVERSAL TIME. GRATEFUL YOU ADVISE AIR LINES DESIGNATED BY YOUR AUTHORITIES IN ORDER TO DEAL WITH ALTERED CIRCUMSTANCES. DISTINGUISHED SALUTATIONS. J. ETOUGHE, SGAC GABON."

3. ALTHOUGH CIVAIR DIRECTOR TOLD EMBOFF THAT FIRST SENTENCE OF TELEGRAM WAS A FABRICATION TO COVER GABON'S POLITICAL INTENTIONS, AIR AFRIQUE DIRECTOR TOLD US GABON FOR SEVERAL MONTHS HAS BEEN SEEKING NEW AGREEMENTS GRANTING LANDING RIGHTS TO GABONESE NATIONAL AIRLINE. SINCE, FOR POLITICAL REASONS, PRESIDENT KEREKOU IS NOT ON SPEAKING TERMS WITH "SINISTER IMPERIALIST STOOGE EL-HADJ ALBERT BERNARD BONGO," NEGOTIATIONS HAVE NOT TAKEN PLACE. THUS GABON IS DENYING BENIN TRAFFIC LANDING RIGHTS UNTIL AIR GABON STATUS IS NEGOTIATED WITH GPRB. GIVEN THE VITROLIC ANTI-BONGO PROPAGANDA APPEARING DAILY IN THE SEMI-OFFICIAL EHUZU, NEGOTIATIONS WILL BE DIFFICULT. AIR AFRIQUE DIRECTOR MOMENTARILY EXPECTS PAN AMERICAN TO CONFIRM DECISION TO DROP COTONOU PERMANENTLY FROM ITS ITINERARY. PANAM 186 AND 187 OVERFLEW BENIN JUNE 21 AND 22. AS SOON AS CONFIRMATION RECEIVED, WILL NOTIFY DEPARTMENT SINCE IT WILL ALTER NORMAL POUCH AND TRAVEL CONNECTIONS WITH POST. THOMPSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LANDING RIGHTS, FLIGHT CLEARANCES, AIR ROUTE AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 23-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977COTON001048
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770225-0202
Format: TEL
From: COTONOU
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770628/aaaaaxvq.tel
Line Count: 84
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: bb5b6078-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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Status: NATIVE
Subject: GABON CUTS AIR SERVICE WITH BENIN SUMMARY: GABONESE GOVERNMENT HAS NOTIFIED BENIN OF ITS DECISION TO REFUSE LANDING RIGHTS TO ALL PASSENGER, FREIGHT
TAGS: PGOV, EAIR, DM, GB
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Type: TE
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